



EPHESIANS 5:8-21

“Light in the darkness!”

I. A statement of identity

- ❖ Ephesians 5:8-9--*for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true),*
 1. You are no longer darkness!!! You are light!!! This is not a statement of what you ought to do/not do. It is a statement of identity.
 2. He urges us to walk as children of light. He tells us that we will know when we are doing this because the “*fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true*”

II. Please the Lord

- ❖ Ephesians 5:10--*and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord*
 1. Effort is required. To discover what is pleasing to the Lord requires being daily in the Word that he inspired, constantly on our knees in prayer, faithfully among the fellow believers, etc.
 2. We **can** please the Lord. Darkness and light
- ❖ Ephesians 5:11-14--*Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. 13 But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, 14 for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”*
 1. He reiterates his point, DON’T SIN! and tells us to expose works of darkness
 2. Shameful secrets
 - This probably refers to the abominable practices within the Temple of Artemis. Paul chooses not to speak of the specific deeds because not going to edify anyone.
 3. Light changes everything! (verses 13-14)

III. Instructions on being light?

1. Be careful with how we live
 - ❖ Ephesians 5:15-16--*Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.*
2. Be careful with what we believe
 - ❖ Ephesians 5:17--*Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*
3. Be filled with the Spirit and not the intoxicants of the world
 - ❖ Ephesians 5:18--*And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,*
4. Encourage one another in song



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- ❖ Ephesians 5:19--*addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart*
- 5. Encouraging one another with grateful speech
 - ❖ Ephesians 5:20-- *giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*
- 6. By being one
 - ❖ Ephesians 5:21--*submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.*
 - ❖ Philippians 2:3-11-- *Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*
 - Christ lit up the world by humbling himself and becoming a servant. Be amazed by him and follow his example.